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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Ewald Guenther et al.

Art Unit : 2826

Serial No. : 09/786,833

Examiner : Leonardo Andujar

Filed : March 9, 2001

Title : LAMINATES FOR ENCAPSULATING DEVICES

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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RESPONSE

In response to the action mailed October 22, 2002, please amend the application as follows:

In the specification:

Paragraph beginning at page 5, line 8 has been amended as follows:

B1  
The OLED pixels are materials formed on a substrate 105. In one embodiment, the substrate comprises a transparent substrate and serves as the display surface. The substrate is prepared to support a laminate 120. For example, supports 150 are provided surrounding the OLEDs to support the laminate. The laminate covers the device and hermetically seals the components, protecting them from the environment. The device can also include support posts (not shown) in the non-active regions to provide support for the laminate. This prevents the laminate from collapsing onto the components and affecting the device's functionality. Support posts are particularly useful for flexible devices. Providing support posts in non-active regions of the device is described in concurrently filed International Patent Application titled "Encapsulation of a Device", PCT International Publication Number WO 01/04963 A1, published January 18, 2001, which is herein incorporated by reference.

The support posts can be formed from a dielectric material to electrically isolate the active regions. The material can be directly or indirectly patternable material. The directly

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I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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